

## SWAMPS CAN BE MADE VALUABLE

Chickahominy Wasted Lands Ought to Be Worth Millions.

### HOW TO ACCOMPLISH IT

Good Work in Mecklenburg County, N. C., Furnishes an Object Lesson.

But little has been heard of late about the proposition to drain the Chickahominy swamp lands near Richmond, in Henrico and Hanover counties. The subject was a pretty live one last summer when the engineers of the United States government were camping about and surveying and making estimates of the cost of making these lands valuable. Perhaps a little information concerning the good work along this line that is being done in other parts will interest the people who own or want to own these Chickahominy swamps. I learn from an exchange that extensive plans for the effective drainage of more than 20,000 acres of land in Mecklenburg county, North Carolina, suitable for valuable farms and including lands in the vicinity of Charlotte, N. C., have so far been executed that four miles of the drainage system is now completed. In addition to the great benefit to Charlotte and vicinity, it is estimated that this drainage system, when completed, will add to the value of the farm lands to the extent of over \$25 per acre and that 600,000 bushels of corn per year can be raised on the reclaimed lands.

**Interesting Object Lesson.**  
The legal steps taken in the organization of the Mecklenburg Drainage Commission and the construction methods used in prosecuting the work are interesting as a type which may be considered by other communities having similar problems.

The work was originally authorized by the General Assembly of the State in an act providing for a commission of five men to be known as the Mecklenburg Drainage Commission, in which the powers and duties of the commission were stated in detail. Among these powers was that of assessing the benefits on the land and collecting such assessments from the owners of the lands benefited. This act also established Mecklenburg county as a drainage district. It is provided that an amount annually not exceeding \$5 per acre should be collected until the whole assessment is paid; or, if the total cost of the work is less than an average of \$5 per acre, the commission is authorized to divide the assessment into annual installments in the discretion of the commission.

**No Law Here on Subject.**  
The last Legislature of Virginia did not legislate on the drainage question; perhaps nobody asked it to, and if anybody had requested action, the members would doubtless have wrangled over the subject until all the legislative pay days had rolled by and then left the matter in the pigeon-hole.

But why wait for action by the Legislature? Doubtless with the help of Richmond a drainage company could be formed and the work done for the

people for reasonable pay. If the people want these lands drained and made profitable, as is being done with similar lands in Mecklenburg county, and other parts of North Carolina, they can find a way to have the work done.

### THE COTTON MOVEMENT.

**Great Increases Shown in the Business as Compared With Last Year.**  
New Orleans, May 11.—The report of the Secretary of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange shows that the amount of the cotton brought into sight during the first eight months of the present season was 11,744,318 bales, an increase over the same period last year of 2,482,298 bales. The exports were 9,705,457 bales, an increase of 2,225,589 bales. The takings were, by Northern spinners, 2,102,058 bales, an increase of 381,989 bales; by Southern spinners, 2,156,384 bales, an increase of 265,588 bales. The amount brought into sight during the 20 days of the season was 14,745,677 bales, an increase over the same period last year of 2,944,117 bales. The exports were 9,357,850 bales, an increase of 2,032,130 bales. The takings were, by Northern spinners, 2,130,508 bales, an increase of 382,615 bales; by Southern spinners, 2,155,359 bales, an increase of 285,676 bales.

**More Hogs in the South.**  
While the estimates of the Agricultural Department show a decrease of the total number of hogs in the United States between January 1, 1911, and January 1, 1912, by 250,000, there was a total increase in nine Southern States of 87,000. The increase was distributed as follows:  
Virginia, 88,000, an increase of 25,000;  
North Carolina, 1,405,000, an increase of 51,000;  
South Carolina, 725,000, an increase of 22,000;  
Georgia, 2,095,000, an increase of 225,000;  
Florida, 654,000, an increase of 87,000;  
Alabama, 1,523,000, an increase of 114,000;  
Mississippi, 1,377,000, an increase of 116,000;  
Kentucky, 1,774,000, an increase of 95,000;  
and Tennessee, 1,571,000, an increase of 75,000.

**Hydro-Electric Plant.**  
Burlington, N. C., May 11.—The Alamance Power Company has been organized, and is issuing \$500,000 of bonds to build a hydro-electric plant at River Falls near here. The officers of the company are: P. L. Williamson, president; Burlington, N. C.; Harvey White, vice-president; Graham, Charles E. Menefee, secretary, Burlington.

## VIRGINIAN ROAD HEADED THIS WAY

Believed That "On to Richmond" Is the Word—Surveyors in the Field.

As has already been reported, the stockholders' meeting of the Virginia Railway Company held last week in Norfolk approved the proposed issue of \$75,000,000 of new bonds of which amount \$25,000,000 will be used for refunding, and \$50,000,000 will remain in the treasury to be used as may be required for acquiring or building other lines improvements, etc. There is no immediate extension work proper in contemplation, although it is understood that various short branch lines will be built.

There are now a number of engineers and surveyors in Chesterfield county not over a dozen miles from Richmond who are surveying for a railway and trying to get options on the necessary land for right of way. While these men are rather silent and tell but few tales out of school, there is a rumor among the people along the route they are surveying, that they are in the employ of the Virginia Railway, and that that company is going to bring its road into Richmond. At this Norfolk meeting of the stockholders the reports of the officers covering the business for the eight months of its fiscal year from July 1 last to the end of February showed increased over last year that are gratifying.

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\$20.00 Spring Suits .	\$10.00	\$30.00 Spring Suits .	\$15.00
\$35.00 Spring Suits . .		\$17.50	

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## RICHMOND'S BIG CANDY FACTORY

Gentleman From Missouri Shown Richmond's Greatness as Best of Distributing Points.

One of the most interesting charters granted last week by the State Corporation Commission was the one which incorporated the Westmoreland Candy Company, of Richmond. The incorporation of this company simply means that Richmond is to have one of the largest candy factories in all the South, a factory that will make all the staple candies and all of the high-grade package and fancy boxed goods to sell over the South and all over the country. The Westmoreland company has already absorbed the R. H. Hardesty Company, and will soon commence operations at the old stand of the absorbed company on Seventeenth Street.

The company has ample capital to do the business in all of its details and varieties, and to meet all of the requirements of the country-wide trade they expect to build up.

Grover Cleveland Dula, the president of the company, is a man of large experience in the business. He was on the lookout for a proper location for the candy-making business on a very large scale, and he was invited to Richmond. Many copies of the Industrial Section of The Times-Dispatch were sent him, and in one way and another he became very much stuck on Richmond, but Mr. Dula hails from the town of Wentzville, in the State of Missouri, and of course, "we had to show him." He came and he was shown Richmond. He reached the conclusion, as do all good business men who look into the matter, that Richmond has more advantages as a distributing point than any city in all the South. Its location and its railway and steamboat facilities make it so. Mr. Dula says he can ship the products of a great candy factory to more points over a large territory and have them reach their destination in quicker time from Richmond than from any city he has visited, and he has been to quite a number in his search for the proper location for the big candy factory. The other officers of the Westmoreland are R. H. Hardesty, vice-president, and A. S. Williams, secretary and treasurer. As soon as the equipment of up-to-date machinery is put in place and all of the arrangements completed, Richmond will have in operation what is going to be the largest candy factory in the South.

## TOBACCO SALES IN TWO STATES

End Is in Sight—Near to All of Last Year's Crop Sold.

The end is in sight so far as the sales of loose leaf tobacco in the Virginia and Carolina markets for the present tobacco year are concerned. A number of the smaller markets have already wound up, and the warehouses closed, to remain "dark" until the new crop is made and begins to come to market. The sales of the farmers' leaf are now confined to the larger

markets, and those markets are on the home stretch.

In a sun-curing belt the "season" which came last Monday and Tuesday enabled the growers to strip all of the sun-cured stock they had left in their barns, and it is more than likely that they brought about half of it to market on Thursday and Friday. There will, of course, be some straggling sales for two or three weeks to come, but it is doubtful if more than 200,000 or 300,000 pounds are yet to be sold.

The sales the past week amounted to 250,000 pounds, and some improvement was noticeable in the market. There were more buyers out, and prices were a little stiffer.

The package dealers had small business.

**Lynchburg Tobacco Market.**  
Lynchburg, Va., May 11.—John D. Oglebay, of the Lynchburg Tobacco Warehouse company (Inc.), makes the following report of leaf tobacco sold on the Lynchburg market: Sold week ending May 3, 308,900 pounds; old week ending May 10, 175,100 pounds; decrease this week, 3,500 pounds. Sold from September 1, 1911, to May 10, 1912, 16,854,200 pounds; sold from September 1, 1910, to May 12, 1911, 14,782,500 pounds; increase for 1911, 2,066,700 pounds. Sales were slightly larger this week than

was expected, the quality of the offerings being somewhat better also.

While there was not much change in prices, better feeling was noticeable on the market, with all grades firm at quotations below:  
Lugs, common (damaged).....\$1.25 @ \$1.40  
Lugs, common (sound).....4.50 @ 5.00  
Lugs, medium.....5.50 @ 6.25  
Lugs, good.....6.50 @ 7.50  
Leaf, common.....5.50 @ 6.50  
Leaf, medium.....7.00 @ 8.25  
Leaf, good.....8.50 @ 10.00  
Leaf, fine.....10.00 @ 14.00  
Leaf, wrappers.....None offering

**Petersburg Tobacco Market.**  
Petersburg, Va., May 11.—The market was active throughout the week with sales of \$7,500 pounds. The planters are very busy preparing for this year's crops and are not bringing much tobacco to market. The sales for the season to-day are \$500,475 pounds, showing that the great bulk of the crop in this section has been sold.

The market closed firm at the following quotations:  
Common lugs.....\$5.50 @ \$6.25  
Good lugs.....7.00 @ 8.00  
Short leaf.....7.50 @ 8.00  
Medium shipping leaf.....8.00 @ 10.00  
Fine shipping leaf.....12.00 @ 13.00  
Fine wrappers.....10.00 @ 14.00  
Fine wrappers.....15.00 @ 20.00

**Danville Tobacco Report.**  
Danville, Va., May 11.—Receipts of tobacco this week have been quite small, and the

quality comparatively poor, consisting mainly of the darker types of common and medium grades. Desirable tobaccos with color were unusually scarce.

A full corps of buyers is in daily attendance upon the breaks, but owing to the small receipts they are more or less indifferent bidders, except when something really desirable is offered.  
Prices on color tobaccos hold firm, while the darker and inferior grades have been a shade easier for several weeks than they were a month ago under larger receipts. Redried tobaccos are dull. Open conditions appear to be generally favorable.

**Old Dinwiddie Leads.**  
A. C. Bedford, the proprietor of the Butterworth granite quarries, in Dinwiddie county, has just closed a big contract with the city of Baltimore for Belgian blocks to be used for paving purposes in the Monumental city. The contract calls for 1,000,000 blocks to be furnished within a year.

This is the second 1,000,000-block deal Mr. Bedford has had with Baltimore, and it, with his large contracts for granite for building purposes, will keep his finely equipped plant busy for the next twelve months, or until he greatly enlarges the plant, as he expects to do. Baltimore selected the Dinwiddie granite blocks after careful "tasting" tests, which proved the Dinwiddie goods superior to any of the samples shown by competitors for the big contract.

# Hofheimer's

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### Sensational Shoe Sale, Monday and Tuesday

2,000 pairs of Ladies' Pumps that formerly sold for \$3, \$3.50 and \$4; all Hofheimer Pumps; no job lot in this sale. Velvets, patent, gun-metal, silk and tans; all at one price ..... **\$1.50**

Small lot of Men's Oxfords that sold for \$3.00, \$3.50 and \$4.00; Monday and Tuesday ..... **\$1.50**

Children's Patent Roman Sandals, sizes 8 to 11; sold for \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$2.00; Monday and Tuesday... **75c**

Misses' Roman Sandals, sizes 11½ to 2, sold for \$1.75, \$2.00 and \$2.50; Monday and Tuesday..... **95c**

Children's, Misses and Big Girls' Velvet Pumps that sold from \$1.25 to \$3.00 pair; Monday and Tuesday ..... **95c**